



HEARD ACROSS MONTANA

VOLUME 4 • ISSUE 23 • June 6, 2008



IM Finance Sub-Committee

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The IM Finance Sub-Committee met in Helena on Mon., June 2 at the offices of Anderson ZurMeuhlen (AZ). Members review the master schedule of projects and funding sources. Bill Fleiner emphasized the importance of submitting all invoices and statements to AZ so they can be appropriately credited against the budget. Several Decision/Information Requests (DIRs) were reviewed and assigned funding sources.

Work is progressing on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among owners of the Gallatin Ring microwave. Subscriber unit COPS grant requests will be reviewed on June 16. Members reviewed and approved revisions to Policy 2.0. Don Cox, AZ, reported that the IM budget was reconciled with that of DES for FY05 Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS) funds. The committee approved an expenditure for sending two individuals to Motorola's System Administrator Training. The committee also set a deadline for participants to submit expenses for the IM Retreat. They need to be sent to Don Cox, AZ, no later than June 30.

The group discussed administrative costs and learned that they can be matched with a "soft match," such as when administrative staff members attend meetings. Dan McGowan, DES, reported that award letters are under development for DHS FY07 and PSIC funds. Bill and Pete Mohan, PSSB, are updating the Site Development Process document to clarify all financial processes.

The next Finance Committee work session is scheduled for Monday, June 16 at the AZ offices from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, and the next formal meeting is June 30 from 9:00 am to noon, also at AZ.

IM Governance Committee Meeting

By E. Wing Spooner espooner@mt.gov

The IM Governance Committee met in Helena on Mon., June 2 and finalized revisions to the IMPD bylaws. Bob Murdo, legal counsel, reported on procurement and lease issues. Several questions about the IM Project's legal status also were addressed.

Sheriff John Walsh, IM Finance Sub-Committee Chair, summarized the morning meeting. He pointed out that once the revised IMPD bylaws are approved, the Finance Sub-Committee will become an IMPD Standing Committee. George Gupton, Staffing Sub-Committee Chair reported on the Executive Director position. I-15/90 Project Director Dave McPherson was appointed as the new chair of

the Business Practices Sub-Committee.

Bill Fleiner reported on the legislative EPP process. And the proposed budget for the IM Project. Sustainability is an important issue that the IMPD will need to start addressing. The IM Retreat Sub-Committee reported that a conference call was held with the National Governor's Association (NGA) and three major conclusions came from meeting: 1) Communication is hugely important and 2) Consortia need to better understand their role in this process and recognize that they have work to do within their jurisdictions, such as funding subscriber units, determining their communication needs, and sustaining their involvement and membership in the IM Project. 3) Participation and volunteerism need to be encouraged.

A new page on Outreach & Education has been added to the website. Work continues on the Outreach and Education Plan as well as the development of MOUs.

The next IM Governance meeting is June 30 in Helena beginning at 12:30 pm.

IM Project Directors Meeting

By E. Wing Spooner espooner@mt.gov

The Interoperability Montana Project Directors (IMPD) met in Helena on June 3 for its monthly meeting. Glendive Police Chief Alan Michaels, IMPD Chair, welcomed the group and proceeded with approval of the minutes.

Bill Fleiner, IM Governance Committee Chair, reported on highlights from the Interoperability Montana Finance Sub-Committee meetings held May 13 and June 2. A funding summary report was distributed and reviewed. The FY05 Dept. of Homeland Security budget has been reconciled between the State Administrative Agency (SAA) and the IM Project. Bob Murdo, Legal Counsel, described procurement processes that are underway, and the IMPD approved an RFP for a general contractor for construction of communications sites. Bob also reported on discussions with an FCC attorney and a lease issue.

George Gupton, Staffing Sub-Committee Chair, distributed a position description for the IM Executive Director. After review and changes, the description was approved. This along with the application process can be found at: <http://interop.mt.gov/default.asp>. George will work with the Montana Job Service and other agencies to publicize the position.

Bill Fleiner reported for the Statement of Work (SOW) Committee to say that the SOW will be released this week and proposals are due by the third



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week of July. The RFP should be on the state procurement website next week.

Bob McWilliams, IM Technical Committee (IMTC) Chair, gave a report on the IMTC and each sub-committee also reported. Dennis Espeland, Northrop Grumman, reviewed the priorities of the IM Project, which are to 1) Make the Northern Tier operational; 2) Complete sites that were in progress in 2007; and 3) Complete sites with available funding and completed procurement documentation. He summarized the project work plan, labor and staffing, and he provided a risk assessment. Mark Adams, Northrop Grumman, presented the June status report. The board approved several Decision/Information Requests (DIR). After amending the bylaws, the board approved the revised bylaws.

The next IMPD meeting is on Tuesday, July 1 at 9:00 am at the State Capital.

Northern Tier Meeting

By Pete Mohan pmohan@mt.gov

The Northern Tier Interoperability Consortium (NTIC) board of directors and technical representatives met in Havre on Thurs., June 5. Chair Wayne Dusterhoff, opened the meeting and a vote was taken to have Jack Spillman, Flathead County System Administrator, replace Pete Wingert, Deputy Sheriff, Flathead County, on the IM Technical Committee.

Prior to the NTIC meeting, Wayne Dusterhoff, Brian Fitzpatrick, Regional Communications Chief for the BNSF Railway (BNSF), Mark Adams, Northrop Grumman, and Chris Christensen, Public Safety Services Bureau (PSSB), met to verify the onward progress of the BNSF collocation progress in the Lincoln County sites.

Mark Adams gave an update on the progress of NTIC site development and reported on the meeting with BNSF. The group discussed progress and the growth of radio coverage. Currently, the Northern Tier is at a construction phase with a large percentage of the sites able to accept trunking and microwave connectivity. Frequency approvals are progressing.

Cindy Mullaney, Flathead County Representative, presented fleet mapping information, which was discussed by the group. Each jurisdiction is required to complete fleet mapping, technical training as needed, and, most importantly, develop the business practices needed to conduct operations. Bill Fleiner, IM Governance Committee Chair, briefed the board on the IM Retreat in Billings and brought members up to date on IM governance and finance issues. Scott Bradford, PSSB, briefed the board about the COPS

grant. Chris Christensen, PSSB, gave an update on outreach activities.

The next NTIC meeting will be a teleconference on Thurs., July 3 beginning at 9:00 am. The next face-to-face meeting will be Thurs., Aug. 7 at 9:00 am, at the Great Northern Inn in Havre.

Upcoming Meetings

June 9

Fleet Mapping Meeting
Helena • 9:00 am – Noon
Law Enforcement Center, 221 Breckenridge

June 11 (Please note location change)

Central Montana Consortium (CMICC)
Great Falls • 10:00 am
Courthouse Annex, 325 2nd Ave North, Rm 116

June 11

South Central Montana Consortium (SCMIC)
Livingston • 10:00 am
Park County Courthouse, 414 East Callender Street

June 11

Statewide Interoperable Executive Council (SIEC)
Helena • 10:00 am • Room 152, State Capitol

June 16

Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) Consortium
Bozeman • 10:00 am • City Center Motel, 507 W Main St.

June 17

Western Interoperability Comm. Consortium (WICC)
Hamilton • 10:00 am • Ravalli County Courthouse, 215 S. 4th St.

June 19

I-15/90 Corridor Consortium
Butte • 10:00 am • Chamber of Commerce; 1000 George St.

June 23

IM Technical Committee (IMTC) Meeting
Helena • 9:00 am • State Capitol

June 25

Tri-County Consortium
Helena • 10:00 am
DOC Annex Conf. Rm.; Behind 515 N. Sanders St.

June 25

Eastern Tier Consortium (ETIC)
Glendive • 10:00 am
Law Enforcement Center; 440 Colorado Blvd.

June 26

Big Sky 11 Consortium
Columbus • 10:00 am • Fire Hall, 2305 8th Ave N.

June 30

IMGC Finance Sub-Committee
Helena • 9:00 am - Noon
Anderson & ZurMuehlen • 828 Great Northern Blvd.

June 30

IM Governance Committee
Helena • Noon - 5:00 pm
DOC Annex Conf. Rm.; Behind 515 N. Sanders St.

July 1

IM Project Directors (IMPD) Meeting
Helena • 9:00 am - 3:00 pm • State Capitol

July 3

Northern Tier (NTIP) • Conference Call